

Glenda Wiles

From: haas20@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2008 3:11 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Subject: Fwd: one house per two acres initiative continuation

-----Original Message-----

From: haas20@aol.com
To: jrokosh@ravallicounty.netgov
Cc: ddriscoll@ravallicounty.netgov; cgrandstaff@ravallicounty.netgov; gchilcottW@ravallicounty.netgov
Sent: Tue, 22 Jan 2008 7:07 pm
Subject: one house per two acres initiative continuation

Dear Commissioners,

I am unable to attend the meeting in which I understand you will be discussing and some of you will be attempting to subvert the will of the people of Ravalli County as evidenced by the wording and the intent of the initiative. Until a suitable plan and zoning is in place I support keeping the one house per two acres as stated in the initiative in place...that does not mean density as some of you later interpreted.

Who would have ever thought that people swept into office in such a bipartisan manner with a primary task of getting some zoning and planning done would still be held up by ??? at this late date. So now a shift by at least one of you has realigned the numbers and that person has now a blurred memory as to how and why they were elected.

The commissioners doing about faces and aligning themselves with vested special interests groups is not unusual or new. The voters come together, gather thousands of signatures to clearly and unequivocally communicate their will to the commissioners and assume that the commissioners "get it" and set about carrying on their lives, paying their taxes. Then come the commissioners own interpretation of the voter initiative, the first step in the turning of the commissioners from the will of the voters. Then the meetings with the vested special interests, some of these folks get on boards where they rule on issues which further their special interests but alas these boards may be advisory so "no conflict of interest can exist". This ruling seems unreasonable to any right thinking person. The real people affected, the voters, are left high and dry by their elected officials. Voters are left with recourse to costly lawsuits, another time consuming initiative or some other remedy that is costly in time or money or effort. Commissioners count on fatigue with an issue so that they can go ahead and operate without consideration of the major part of the electorate and they count on short memories and incumbency. Please don't play these silly games any longer. Do what you were elected to do protect the voters and residents of this county from overdevelopment lacking sane planning and zoning.

Gwen Haas

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